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Application No.: 10/664,671

Docket No.: JCLA12230-R

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

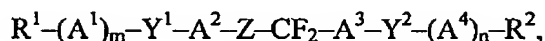
Claims 13-25 had been allowed. Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), claims 1-2, 4-9 and 12 were rejected as being anticipated by JP 05-112778 (JP778), and claims 1-8 rejected by CAPLUS 1967: 489834 ('834). Claims 10 & 11 were objected to as depending upon rejected claims.

In response thereto, Applicants have further amended independent claims 1 & 7 and amended dependent claims 5 & 8 accordingly, and respectfully submit an RCE with the following remarks. Reconsideration of claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

Discussions of Rejections to Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 12 were rejected as being anticipated by JP778 and claims 1-8 rejected by '834. Please note that independent claims 1 and 7 have been further amended to remove "hydrogen" from the scope of R^1 and " $-OCF_2-$ " & " $-CF_2O-$ " from the scope of Z^1-Z^3 . Dependent claims 5 and 8 are also amended accordingly. **It is noted that the above removals do not raise any new issue.**

Formula I in JP778 is:



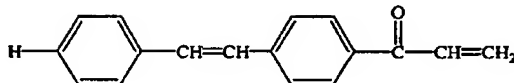
wherein $-Z-CF_2-$ ($Z=O$ or S) corresponds to Z^1 , Z^2 or Z^3 in claim 1/7 and $R^1-(A^1)_m-Y^1-$ can be unsubstituted or substituted acryl.

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Since $-\text{OCF}_2-$ and $-\text{CF}_2\text{O}-$ have been removed from the scope of Z^1-Z^3 , the scope of amended independent claim 1/7 does not overlap with that of formula I in JP778.

On the other hand, the compound "RN 17451-26-2" in '834 having the structure of



corresponds to a compound of previous claim 1/7 where R^1 is H, $m+n+q=1$, A^1 , A^2 or A^3 is 1,4-phenylene, Z^1 , Z^2 or Z^3 is $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, A^4 is 1,4-phenylene, Z^4 is single bond and $R^2=R^3=R^5=\text{H}$.

Since hydrogen has been removed from the scope of R^1 , the scope of amended claim 1/7 does not cover the compound "RN 17451-26-2" in '834.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1 & 7 and claims 2-6 & 8-12 dependent therefrom all patently define over the prior art.

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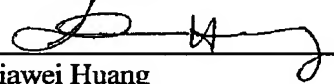
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-12 are in proper condition for allowance like claims 13-25 are. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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